



**Whereas**

By the grace of God, King of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. To all and singular Archbishops, Bishops, Archdeacons, Deans, and their Officials, Parsons, Vicars, Curats, and to all spiritual persons. And also to all Justices of Peace, Mayors, Sheriffs, Bailiffs, Constables, Churchwardens and Headboroughes: And to all Officers of Citties, Boroughes, and Townes corporate: And to all other our Officers, Ministers, and Subjects whatsoever they be, as well within Liberties, as without, to whom these presents shall come, greeting:

**Whereas** we are credibly given to understand, by a Certificate under the handes and Seales of our trusty & welbelovied Subjects, the Mayor, Aldermen & Sheriffs, of our Towne of Kingston upon Hull, within our Countie of Yorke, That our poore distressed Subject William Chapman of the same Towne, Master and Marryner, hath heretofore bin a man of good worth and ability and a very skilfull and sufficient person in his vocation, having had heretofore frequent trading and Commerce in divers places beyond the Seas,

untill such time as it pleased God to visite him with sundry great losses from time to time, as namely by the King of Poland in Danske, under whom he was forced to serve in a Ship called the Angeleuer, in which Ship he was the same voyage taken by the King of Sweeland, who despoiled him of all he had in the said Ship. And afterwards he making in the said Ship a Fishing voyage to the Wardhouse for the good of the Countrey, it so fortuned that the said Ship & goods to the value of Cleven hundred pounds, was taken by certaine Denmarkees to his great hinderance and almost bitter vndoing. Also he made another voyage for Amsterdam in the good Ship called the Content, in which voyage he lost Seauentie peeces of Carrey to the value of One hundred and Fourtye pounds more, by reason of all which losses and hinderances together with some ill Debtores (Amounting in the whole losse to the value of fiftene hundred pounds) our said poore Subject is now quite badone, who before these vntimely losses liued in good credit and used the trade of Marchandise, relieved the poore and set many men at worke, and yet he is not now able to helpe himselfe, nor to sustaine his poore Wife and Children, who live in great want and are like to continue the rest of their dayes in great misery, vnlesse some charitable course be forthwith taken for the reliefe and comfort of our said poore Subject, whose poore and unhappy estate we much pittie, and haue thought good (upon the humble request of all our forsaide trusty and welbelovied Subjects, the Mayor, Aldermen and Sheriffs, made vnto vs on his behalfe) to commend the same vnto the charitable consideration of all our louing & weldisposed Subjects within certaine places hereafter mentioned, not doubting but that all good Christians well weighing the premises, will be ready and willing as feeling members one of anothers misery, to extend their liberall contributions towards the reliefe and comfort of their poore distressed Brother in this his great necessity.

**And** we therefore, That of our especiall Grace and Princely Compassion, we haue given and granted, and by these our Letters Patents, doe giue and graunt vnto our said poore Subject William Chapman, and to his Deputy and Deputies, the bearer or bearers hereof, full power, licence, and Authority to aske, gather, receiue, and take the Almes and charitable beneuolence of all our louing Subjects whatsoever, Inhabiting within our Counties of Norfolk, Suffolke, Essex, & Kent, with our Citties of Canterbury, Rochester and the Cinque Portes, with our Cittie of Norwich, And in all other Citties, Townes Corporate, Priuiledged places, Parishes, Villages, and in all other places whatsoever within our said Counties and not else where, for and towards the recovery of his said losses, and the reliefe and maintenance of himselfe, and his poore Wife, and Children.

**And** we therefore, we will and Commaund you and every of you, that at such time and times, as the said William Chapman, or his Deputy or Deputies, the bearer or bearers hereof, shall come and repaire to any your Churches, Chappels, or other places, to aske and receiue the gratuities and charitable beneuolence of our said Subjects, quietly to permit and suffer them so to doe, without any manner your lets or contradictions, And you the said Parsons, Vicars, and Curats, for the better stirring up of a charitable deuotion, deliberately to publish & declare the Tenor of these our Letters Patents or the Coppy of Briefe thereof, vnto our said Subjects upon some Sabbath day, when as the same shall be tendered vnto you. Exhorting & perswading them to extend their liberall contributions in so good and charitable a deed. And you the Churchwardens of every Parish, where such Collection is to be made (as aforesaid) to collect and gather the Almes and charitable beneuolence of all our louing Subjects, as well Strangers as others, and what shall be by you so gathered to deliver it to the bearer or bearers of these our Letters Patents and to no other person, when as thereunto you shall be required. And lastly, whereas we are informed of the great abuse which is now crept in amongst these poore people, who sell their Licences vnto some other person, whereby mens charity goeth not the right way, but vnto such as deserue it least: That from henceforth our will and pleasure is, that if it may appeare vnto you or any of you, that the said William Chapman, hath contracted any bargaine, or made or shall make sale of these our Letters Patents, whereby the benefit should passe from him to any other person, That thereupon these our Letters Patents shall be void & of none effect. Any Statute, Law, Ordinance, or Provision, heretofore made to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

**In** witness whereof, we haue caused these our Letters to be made Patents for the space of One whole yeare next after the date hereof to endure. Witness our selfe at Westminster, the five and Twentieth day of January, in the Eighteenth yeare of our Raigne of England, France, & Ireland: And of Scotland the foure and Fiftieth.

1620.

*Steward.*



God saue the King



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Cum Priuilegio.